CLATSOP COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# History Matters

March/April 2024

## Inside


- Dangerous Bars
- Our Curator Plays a Prank
- Educational Opportunities for the Studiously Inclined


## New Signs for the Flavel House Grounds

Astoria High School student Mackenzie "Mack" Still made new signs for the Flavel House grounds as part of his Senior Project. This much-needed improvement was completed with the support of City Lumber which supplied all the lumber; Nuway Carpet who provided the laminate; and Ashlea Still who donated her time and expertise assisting on the Cricut lettering. Thank you to Mack and everyone who helped make this project a success!

Mack poses with one of the old signs from the Flavel House grounds and two of the new ones that he made [right]. One of the new signs outside the Flavel House [far right].

*Light Capsule* by Craig Winslow, 2022
Image courtesy of Oregon Art Beat

*Astoria City Hall* by Dean Welch, 2006
The red and blue overlays make the image appear three dimensional when viewed through special glasses. Image courtesy of the artist.

## Double Vision: The Art and Science of Optical Illusions in Clatsop County

CCHS is opening a new temporary exhibit at the Heritage Museum! *Double Vision: The Art and Science of Optical Illusions in Clatsop County* explores how such fun phenomenon as stereoscopic viewers and zoetropes shaped the regional culture. Come and experience firsthand how these devices transformed seemingly ordinary images into three-dimensional spectacles or how they strung together a series of images into a form of early animation. This exhibit celebrates these early optical devices and their unique influence on the region.

An exciting component of this exhibit is the involvement of artists Craig Winslow and Dean Welch. Craig created the Light Capsule of local ghost signs currently on display nightly at 9th and Marine Drive, while Dean developed a series of 3D images using local landmarks.

**This exhibit is made possible through the generosity of James and Janet Aalberg. Thank you!**

Stereo Graphoscope

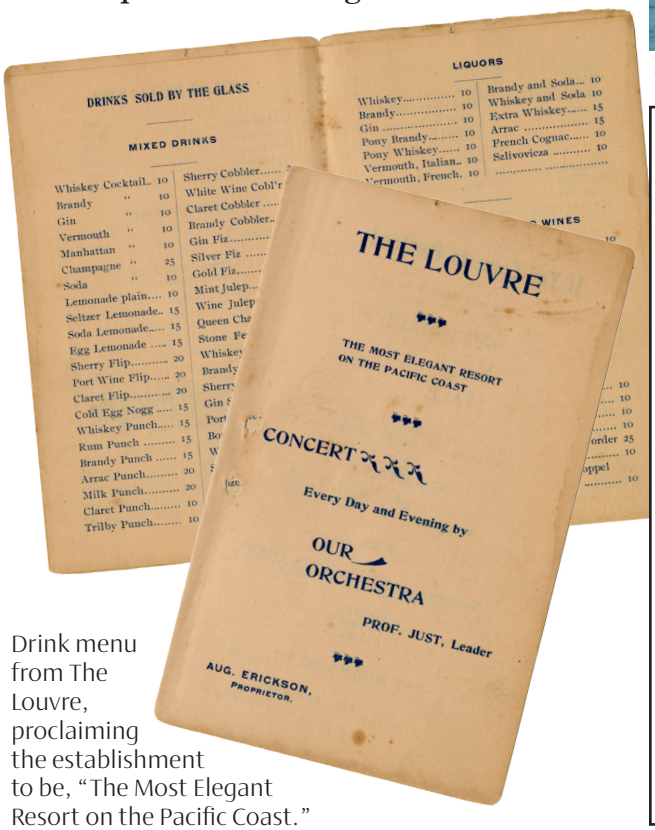
**Opening reception Thursday, April 4th, 6-8pm**

# Thursday Night Talks

Our series Thursday Night Talks (TNT) at Fort George's Lovell Showroom has a great lineup for both March and April. On March 21st, retired bar pilot Thron Riggs presents material from his new book, *A History of Pilotage on the Columbia River Bar*.

Then on April 18th, local historians Lauri Serafin and Eric Wheeler explore the social and architectural significance of Astoria's once-great, gentlemen's establishment, The Louvre, with "The Louvre: The Art of Entertainment in Astoria." Join us to learn more about these fascinating aspects of Clatsop County history.

**Doors open at 6. Talk begins at 7.**




Drink menu from The Louvre, proclaiming the establishment to be, "The Most Elegant Resort on the Pacific Coast."

Columbia River Bar Pilot boats *Chinook* and *Columbia* with their helicopter *Seahawk*.

# Casino Night

Another roaring good time was had at this year's Casino Night.

Thank you to our table sponsors Bret Estes and Eric Williams, Kent and LJ Easom, Patricia Roberts, Betsy Johnson, the Van Dusen family, the Stemper family in honor of Jim "Ace" Neikes, Arbor Care Tree Specialists, Bornstein Seafoods, Old Town Framing Company, and Fultano's Pizza Astoria, and to our presenting sponsor Northwest Lending Group for making our annual fundraiser a success!

Revelers enjoy a game of chance at our recent Casino Night. Drinks were served from The Louvre's original back bar.

# Curator's Corner

**by Dr. Chelsea K. Vaughn, Curator**

One of the fun things I get to do as Curator is make seasonal changes to the Flavel House. This might involve small things like updating the floral arrangements throughout the year to reflect what would be growing in a particular month. It also includes larger events like decorating for Halloween and Christmas.

In April, I like to do an April Fools scavenger hunt. The Flavels, like many Victorians, appreciated a good April Fool's Day prank. In each of the major rooms, I have placed an item that first came out well after the Flavels lived in the house. Can you find them all?

**April Fool's in the Flavel House, April 1-30**

**We have nearly 3,500 items available online! Check out our Digital Collections. Use the QR Code or the web address below:**

https://archive.org/details/clatsopcountyhistoricalsociety

# Digital Archive News

**by Julie Burpee, Digital Archivist**

We now have nearly 3,500 items digitized and available through the Internet Archive! Do you want to learn more about using the Internet Archive as a research tool? We are offering a special, members-only workshop that explores the ins and outs of the Internet Archive and how to best use the CCHS Digital Collections. Open to all members of the Clatsop County Historical Society. Wednesday April 10, 11-12.

**Call 503-338-4849 to get more information and to sign up. Hurry. Space is limited.**

# Oregon Black Pioneers Guided Walking Tour of Astoria

Join Oregon Black Pioneers April 13th for a guided tour through Astoria's Black History. This one-mile long walk through downtown will present over two hundred years of history, and filmmaker Ron Craig will discuss York of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Tour tickets also include admission to Clatsop County Heritage Museum, home to the exhibit *Blocked Out: Race and Place in the Making of Modern Astoria.*

For tickets and more information, please visit: https://bit.ly/OBPWalkingTours

Individuals featured on the OBP tour include WWII hero Doris "Dorie" Miller [left]; Roscoe Dixon, Astoria's first known Black business owner [center]; and singer and actress Rosa Lemberg [right].

# Oregon History Day Training Rescheduled

Attention all middle and high School Social Science Teachers! There is another opportunity to attend the Oregon History Day Teacher Training. The event has been rescheduled for Friday, May 10th. Join the Clatsop County Historical Society (CCHS), along with the Oregon Historical Society (OHS) and the Columbia River Maritime Museum (CRMM), for a free, half-day workshop to prepare you to lead your students as they explore local history through Oregon History Day as part of National History Day®. Come, learn more about Oregon History Day and the resources available at both CCHS and CRMM. This event is open to all area Middle and High School Social Science Teachers.

Register at: https://crmmeducation.wufoo.com/forms/middle-high-school-teacher-pd/

THE OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOUNDED 1898

CLATSOP COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

COLUMBIA RIVER MARITIME MUSEUM

# Thank you to our Volunteers!

Thank you to all of our amazing volunteers! Whether you are greeting visitors as a docent in the Flavel House, making the Flavel House grounds look their best as part of the Garden Society, or helping with our extensive collections at the Heritage Museum, the Clatsop County Historical Society is a better organization thanks to your involvement! Keep up the great work!

[Pictured right] CCHS Executive Director McAndrew Burns talking at the recent Volunteer Luncheon held at the Heritage Museum.

CLATSOP COUNTY
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## Upcoming Events

**March 21:** *TNT*, Fort George Brewery Lovell Showroom, 1483 Duane Street, doors open at 6pm.

**April 1-30:** April Fools in the Flavel House. Buy tickets at the Carriage House, 714 Exchange Street.

**April 4:** *Double Vision* Opening Reception, Heritage Museum, 1618 Exchange Street, 6-8pm.

**April 10:** Internet Archive CCHS Members' Workshop, Heritage Museum, 1618 Exchange Street, 11am-noon. Call 503-338-4849 to sign up.

**April 13:** Oregon Black Pioneers Guided Walking Tour. Visit https://bit.ly/OBPWalkingTours for tickets and more information.

**April 18:** TNT, Fort George Brewery Lovell Showroom, 1483 Duane Street, doors open at 6pm.

## Ongoing Events

**Sundays, 8:30-9pm:** Mac Burns and Alana Kujala host *An Adventure in History* on KMUN.

**Wednesdays at 1pm:** Flavel House Garden Society Volunteers meet at the Flavel House Grounds.

**Dr. Harvey Rones Examining a Patient, 1939**

Local optometrist, Dr. Harvey Rones, experimented with optical illusions as a means to improve vison. Come see his work and more at the new exhibit *Double Vision: The Art and Science of Optical Illusions in Clatsop County* at the Heritage Museum.